

HARLEY JOE GOES TO TOWN

Saturday night
denim blue cheap

his shirt was new
and jeans from Monkey Ward

unsure of why he swaggered
he douses his hair with
brilliantine

that smelled of scents no one
could name

EMPTYING THE WASTEBASKET

My nephew
holed up in the bathroom
and wrote some stuff
on memo pads

that nearly knocked me down
when I emptied the wastebasket

"What good is one man"
he wrote

"Who weeps over little
battered kids
and never will
make any money

and won't be remembered
the day after his funeral"

and the boy is only fifteen